

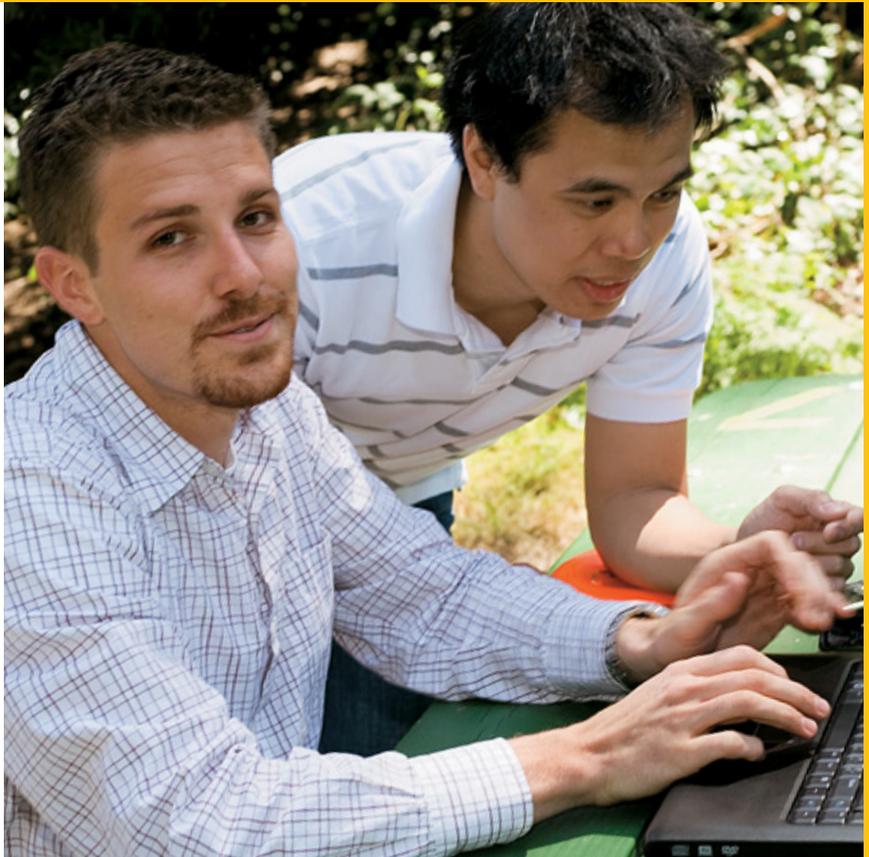
Casual Games on Windows

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What You'll Need

- Windows Live™ Messenger and a Windows Live ID
- Internet Explorer®, version 6 or later
- A computer with Windows Vista®

Windows Guides is a library of easy-to-use guides that show you how to get more from your Windows experience. Share these guides with your friends and family.



See What You Already Have in Windows Vista

Windows Vista comes with a great selection of games that you can play anytime.

1. To open the Games folder, click the Windows logo in the bottom left corner of your display, then click **Games** in the right pane.
2. To open one of the games in the folder, double-click its icon.



*Windows games are not installed by default in Windows Vista Business and Windows Vista Enterprise. To install them, click the Windows logo in the bottom left corner of your display, click **Control Panel**, click **Programs**, and then click **Turn Windows features on or off**. In the Windows Features dialog box, select the **Games** check box, and then click **OK**. If you are prompted for an administrator password or confirmation, type the password or provide confirmation. If you don't see the option or it's grayed out, and you're part of a network, your options may be being governed by your network's Group Policy, and you may be prevented from doing so. In this case, contact your systems administrator.*

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

The following games are included in Windows Vista, except where noted:

CHESS TITANS

Chess Titans brings the classic strategy game to life with three-dimensional graphics and animation. Highlighted squares show where you can move your pieces. Choose a porcelain, marble, or wooden board, and rotate the board freely to the view you want. Chess Titans is included in Windows Vista Premium and Windows Vista Ultimate.

- Number of players: 1 or 2
- Difficulty levels: 1 (beginner) to 10 (expert)
- Typical playing time: 10 to 60 minutes



Figure 1—Chess Titans

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

MAHJONG TITANS

Mahjong Titans is a solitaire game played with tiles. Remove matching pairs of tiles from the board; if you can remove all the tiles, you win! Choose from four different tile designs, six different tile layouts, and a variety of backgrounds. This game is different from the ancient game of mahjong, although it uses similar tiles. Mahjong Titans is included in Windows Vista Premium and Windows Vista Ultimate.

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Varies by tile layout
- Typical playing time: 10 to 30 minutes

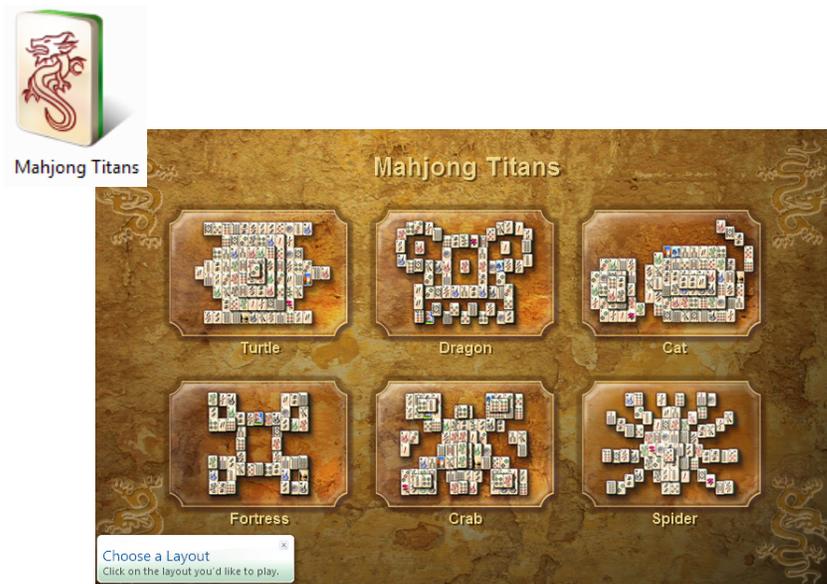


Figure 2—Mahjong Titans

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

INKBALL

In InkBall, your goal is to get bouncing balls into holes of the same color. Steer the balls by deflecting them with ink strokes that you draw with your mouse or tablet pen. Don't let any balls go into the wrong hole, or the game is over! InkBall is included in Windows Vista Premium and Windows Vista Ultimate.

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, novice, intermediate, advanced, expert
- Typical playing time: One to ten minutes

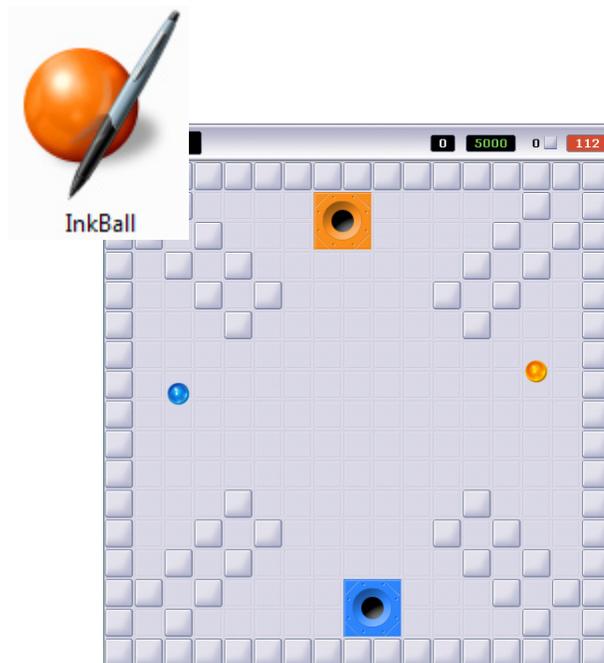


Figure 3—InkBall

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

MINESWEEPER

In Minesweeper, you must locate all of the mines concealed beneath a playing field of squares. Click a square to reveal what it contains. Some squares contain numbers that help you find nearby mines. But watch out—if you click a square with a mine, all the mines on the board explode and the game is over!

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, intermediate, advanced
- Typical playing time: One to ten minutes

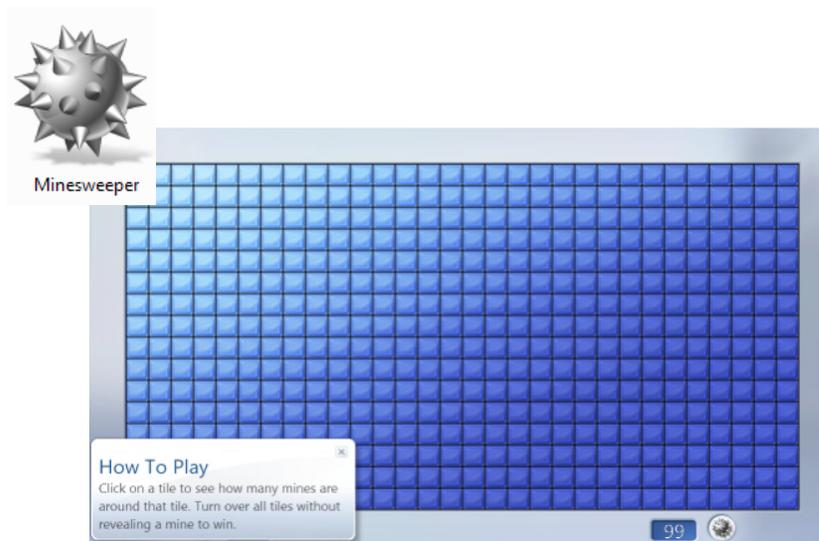


Figure 4—Minesweeper

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

PURBLE PLACE

Purple Place is actually three games in one: Comfy Cakes, Purple Shop, and Purple Pairs. At the beginner level, these whimsical games are especially suitable for children, helping to teach skills in memory, pattern recognition, and reasoning. The higher difficulty levels will challenge players of all ages.

Comfy Cakes

This game puts you in Chef Purple's bakery, where you must complete an order for a batch of cakes. The bakery's customers are very particular, so you'll need to make the cakes exactly as ordered, with the right combination of shapes, batters, fillings, icings, and decorations. Work fast because the cakes will keep on coming!

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, intermediate, advanced
- Typical playing time: One to five minutes



Figure 5—Comfy Cakes, one of the three Purple Place games

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

Purple Shop

This game tests your powers of deduction. Your goal is to make your Purple's face match the mystery Purple behind the curtain. Choose hair, eyes, nose, and lips from the shelves, then learn how many—but not which—features you have right!

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, intermediate, advanced
- Typical playing time: One to five minutes



Figure 6—Purple Shop, one of the three Purple Place games

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

Purple Pairs

In this game, your goal is find all the matching pairs of pictures on the board before time runs out. Flip a tile over to reveal a picture, then try to find its match. Use a “sneak peek” token to get a glimpse of all of the tiles on the board.

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, intermediate, advanced
- Typical playing time: One to ten minutes



Figure 7—*Purple Pairs*, one of the three *Purple Place* games

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

CARD GAMES

Windows comes with four card games: Hearts, and three variants of solitaire; FreeCell, Solitaire, and Spider Solitaire. For each game, you can choose from a variety of deck designs and backgrounds.

Hearts

Hearts is a card game that you play in rounds against three computer opponents. Avoid taking the undesirable cards—all hearts and the queen of spades—unless you're planning to shoot the moon! The player with the lowest score wins.

- Number of players: 1 (against 3 computer opponents)
- Difficulty levels: One level
- Typical playing time: 10 to 20 minutes

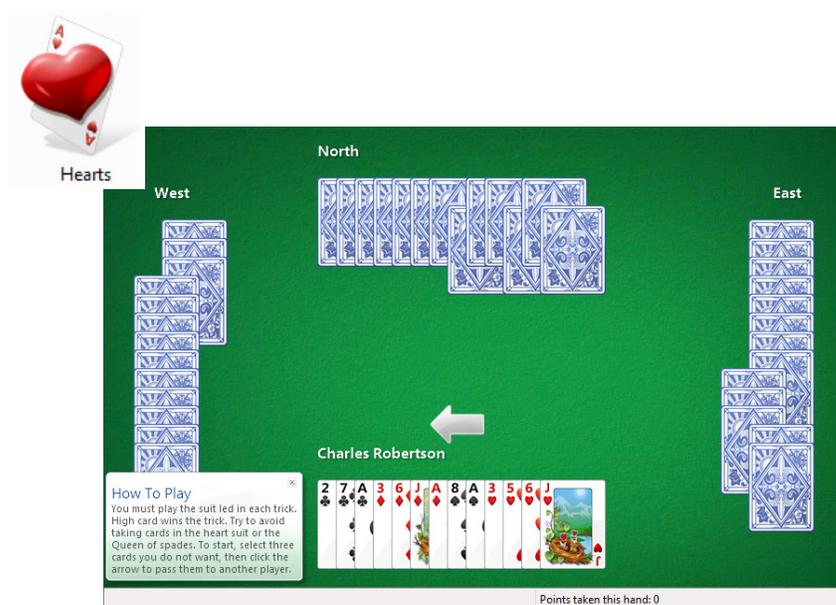


Figure 8—Hearts

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

FreeCell

FreeCell is a variant of solitaire. To win, you must make four stacks of cards, one in each suit, in ascending order (ace to king). To build these stacks, you'll draw from seven columns of cards that you build in descending order, alternating red and black. Use the "free cells" to hold cards temporarily.

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: One level
- Typical playing time: 10 to 20 minutes

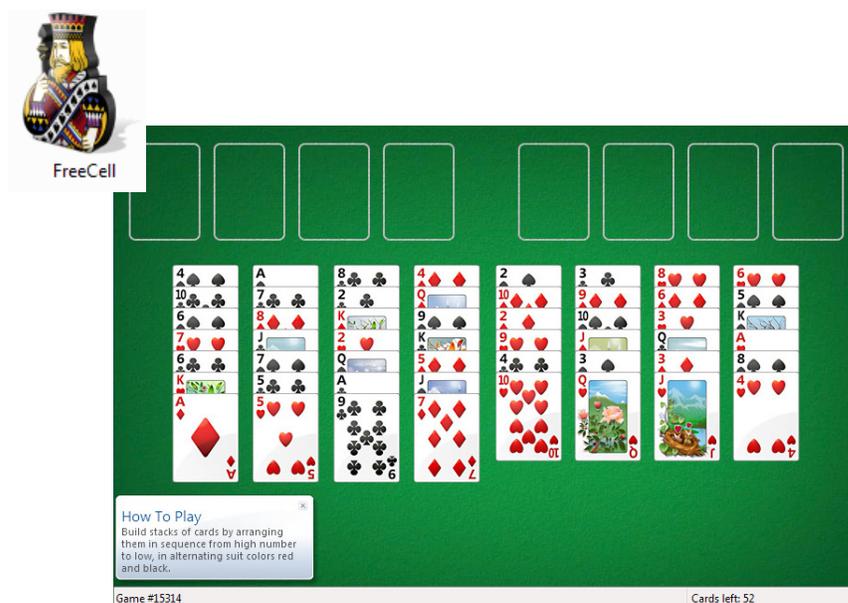


Figure 9—FreeCell

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

Solitaire

Solitaire is based on the most popular variant of solitaire, Klondike. To win, you must build four stacks of cards, one for each suit, in ascending order (ace to king). To build these stacks, you'll draw from seven columns of cards that you build in descending order, alternating red and black.

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: One level
- Typical playing time: 5 to 15 minutes



Figure 10—Solitaire

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

Spider Solitaire

Spider Solitaire is a variant of solitaire that uses two decks' worth of cards (104 cards). The object is to remove all of the cards from the ten stacks at the top of the window in the fewest number of moves. Remove cards by making a complete stack in descending order (king to ace).

- Number of players: 1
- Difficulty levels: Beginner, intermediate, advanced
- Typical playing time: 5 to 15 minutes



Figure 11—Spider Solitaire

See What You Already Have in Windows Vista *(continued)*

Ready for more entertainment? There are thousands of games available that work with Windows Vista, either for purchase or for free. Categories include puzzle and word games, action games, adventure games, sports games, card games, simulation games, and strategy games.

To learn more about the games available for Windows Vista, go to the Games for Windows Web site at <http://www.gamesforwindows.com/en-US/Pages/index.aspx> or Microsoft® Casual Games Web site at <http://www.microsoftcasualgames.msn.com/index.htm>



*On the Free Online games section of MSN® Games, you can also play with others who are online. Go to http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm?intgid=gb_Nav_1. In the **Browse Games** menu, click **Free Online**. Select any game from the list, and you can see the number of people online currently playing each game.*

More information

- Microsoft Windows Gaming: <http://www.gamesforwindows.com/en-US/Pages/index.aspx>
- Microsoft Casual Games: <http://www.microsoftcasualgames.msn.com/index.htm>
- How to find out which edition of Windows Vista you are using: <http://windowshelp.microsoft.com/Windows/en-US/help/bc1adb60-9e03-46ab-9fcf-843151ff2d551033.mspx>
- How to tell if a game will run on your computer: <http://windowshelp.microsoft.com/Windows/en-US/Help/e1c9f8a6-3a69-42cc-a835-bdde9f8a57d71033.mspx>

Connecting With Others: Playing Casual Games Online

There are several ways to play casual games online with either MSN Instant Games or MSN Free Online Games. Both types of games are on the MSN Games site at http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm?intgid=gb_Nav_1

MSN Instant Games are games that you can play while chatting on Windows Live Messenger. This means you can launch a game when chatting with a friend, or send an invitation to play a game to a friend who's online. There are popular free and subscription games, including Sudoku Too, Trivia, Bejeweled, Backgammon, Chess, Bankshot Billiards, Wheel of Fortune and many more.

To launch an MSN Instant Game from the MSN Games site

1. Go to <http://zone.msn.com/en/general/article/generalmessengergames.htm?dr=t>
2. Log into Windows Live Messenger with your Windows Live ID. (If you don't have a Windows Live ID, you can create one quickly and for free here: <https://accountservices.passport.net/ppnetworkhome.srf?lc=1033>)
3. Choose a game from the list on the page and click **Play Now!**



Figure 12—MSN Instant Games

Connecting With Others: Playing Casual Games Online *(continued)*

4. The MSN Games service will show which of your Windows Live Messenger contacts are online.
5. Choose a friend to play with from the list of your online. A game invitation will be sent to that friend. Once they accept your invitation, let the games begin!

To launch an MSN Instant Game from Windows Live Messenger on your desktop

To start playing a game with one of your Windows Live Messenger friends, follow these steps:

1. Log into Windows Live Messenger with your Windows Live ID.
2. In your Contacts list, Right-click the contact that you want to invite to play a game. You can only invite contacts that appear under **Online**.
3. Click **Play a game**.

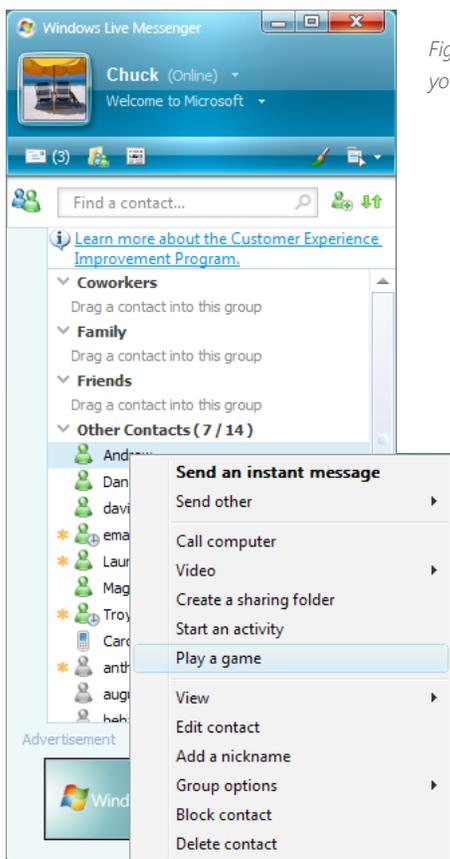


Figure 13—Playing a game with one of your Windows Live Messenger friends

Connecting With Others: Playing Casual Games Online *(continued)*

4. Select the game you want to play.
5. An invitation will be sent to your friend to play the game you selected. When they accept your invitation, a window will appear and you can begin your game.

You can also invite a friend using the toolbar menu under your name at the top of the Windows Live Messenger window:

1. Click the **Show menu** button at the right side of the toolbar.
2. Mouse-over **Actions**.
3. Click **Play a game**. Your Contacts list will appear.

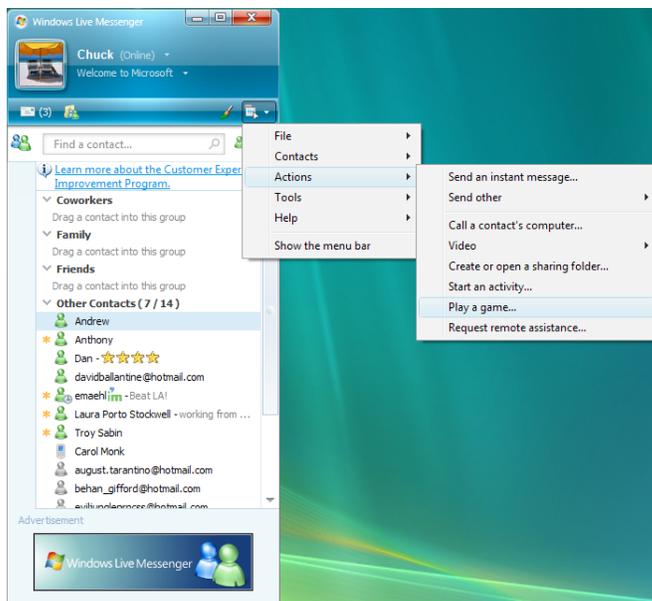


Figure 14—Invite a friend to play a game through Windows Live Messenger.

4. Select the contact that you want to invite to a game.
5. Select the game you want to play.
6. An invitation will be sent to your friend to play the game you selected. When they accept your invitation, a window will appear and you can begin your game.

Connecting With Others: Playing Casual Games Online *(continued)*

7. You can exchange instant messages with the person you're playing with by typing a message in the chat window, and sending it by either clicking the **Send** button or hitting the **ENTER** key.

More information

- Download Windows Live: <http://get.live.com/>
- Get a Windows Live ID: <http://get.live.com/getlive/overview>
- Get started with Windows Live Messenger: http://help.live.com/Help.aspx?market=en-US&project=WL_Messengerv1_1&querytype=topic&query=Messenger_PROC_CreateNewAccountOrRetrievePassword.htm
- Free MSN games you can play on Windows Live Messenger: <http://zone.msn.com/en/general/article/jigsawtoo.htm>
- MSN Games: http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm?intgid=gb_Nav_1

MSN Games

Got a few minutes? MSN Games is great place to hang out for a few minutes or a few hours. You'll find lots of ways to sharpen your brain, challenge your reflexes and make fun, interesting connections with people who share your quest for excellence!

The MSN Game Gallery lets you play the type of game you like, when and how you like to play it. There are hundreds of games in popular genres, including:

- Puzzles
- Word and trivia games
- Card and board games
- Action and arcade games
- Poker and casino games
- Pop culture games



Figure 15—The MSN Games home page

MSN Games *(continued)*

There are five ways to play:

1. Play online games for free
2. Download trial versions of full-featured games
3. Subscribe to GameSpring and enjoy unlimited access to full-featured games
4. Play selected games for cash prizes
5. Play with your friends online while chatting on Windows Live Messenger

On MSN Games, there are thousands of players online any hour of the day. You can play with people you know, make new friends in the online MSN Games community, or be paired against an online player who's at your same skill level. Plus, you can earn badges that you win by increasing your skill levels in the free online games, and get Windows Live Alerts when new badges are available.

In the MSN Games Forum you can:

- Get announcements on the latest happenings on MSN Games
- Share Tech Tips for solving technical issues with games
- Share game tips to improve your scores or help others
- Offer suggestions for new games or features on the site
- Find old friends or make new ones

Check out MSN Games today at <http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm>

More information

- MSN Games: <http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm>
- Microsoft Windows Gaming: <http://www.gamesforwindows.com/en-US/Pages/index.aspx>
- Microsoft Casual Games: <http://www.microsoftcasualgames.msn.com/index.htm>



SITES MENTIONED IN THIS GUIDE

Microsoft Windows Gaming: <http://www.gamesforwindows.com/en-US/Pages/index.aspx>

Microsoft Casual Games: <http://www.microsoftcasualgames.msn.com/index.htm>

Download Windows Live: <http://get.live.com/>

Get a Windows Live ID: <http://get.live.com/getlive/overview>

MSN Games: <http://zone.msn.com/en/root/default.htm>

Microsoft Windows Gaming: <http://www.gamesforwindows.com/en-US/Pages/index.aspx>

Microsoft Casual Games: <http://www.microsoftcasualgames.msn.com/index.htm>

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